

Syrian vice-president ends Iran visit

NIOSIA (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam said at the end of a three-day visit to Iran Tuesday Tehran wanted to resolve peacefully a territorial dispute with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Tehran Radio said, "Syria is mediating between Iran and the UAE. The impression is that Iran seriously wants the existing problems to be resolved through political negotiations," it quoted Mr. Khaddam as saying. The radio said Mr. Khaddam described his talks with Iranian leaders as "very fruitful." But it did not say if the talks had produced any concrete result in defusing tensions in Iran's relations with Gulf Arab states and Egypt. Iran last year tightened its control over Abu Musa island, which it has shared with UAE member Sharjah since 1971. Gulf Arab states then charged Iran with annexation and demanded Tehran leave Abu Musa and two nearby islands. Iran has said it will never give up the islands, and that the Arab demands are inspired by "enemies of Islam." The radio quoted Iranian Vice-President Hassan Habibi as saying Iran sought good relations with its neighbours but considered Gulf Arab leaders' positions in the dispute at odds with their calls for closer ties.

Jordan Times

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Shevardnadze wants peacekeepers

TBILISI, Georgia (R) — Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze has asked the United Nations to send peacekeeping forces to quell fighting in the breakaway Black Sea region of Abkhazia, a parliamentary statement said Tuesday. The statement said Mr. Shevardnadze also asked U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Gali to insist on neutrality from neighbouring countries. The tiny Transcaucasian state's most powerful neighbour is Russia. Hundreds of people have been killed in the Georgia-Abkhazian conflict since August when Georgia responded to local demands for greater sovereignty by sending in troops.

Judge in Honecker trial removed

BERLIN (AP) — The chief judge in the manslaughter trial of former East German leader Erich Honecker has been removed from the proceedings because of possible prejudice, a court spokesman said Tuesday. Although the trial will reconvene Thursday, the decision is a setback for prosecutors. Doctors predict the 80-year-old former communist boss will die of liver cancer before a verdict can be reached. Mr. Honecker is charged with manslaughter stemming from the deaths of east Germans killed while trying to flee to west Germany. Court spokesman Bruno Rautenberg said Chief Judge Hansgeorg Braeutigam would be replaced by one of the two assistant judges in the trial. An alternate judge who has been following the proceedings will then join the three-judge panel. There are also two lay jurors. Defence lawyers and the attorneys for the victims' families claimed Mr. Braeutigam compromised himself by passing on a request for Mr. Honecker's autograph from one of the alternate jurors Dec. 21. A panel of judges from Berlin's district court agreed, removing Mr. Braeutigam because of worries about prejudice.

Arab League chief in Kuwait on PoWs

KUWAIT (R) — The Arab League secretary-general arrived in Kuwait Tuesday to discuss efforts to track Kuwaiti nationals listed as missing since the Gulf war. The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said Esmat Abdul Meguid would meet Kuwait's Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah to discuss last month's visit to Baghdad by Arab League envoy Rachid Driss. The Iraqis invited Mr. Driss to return to discuss the matter further, KUNA said. Kuwait says hundreds of prisoners of war are still held captive in Iraq. Baghdad says it no longer holds any Kuwaiti prisoners.

Evictee takes exam at Lebanon camp

MAR AL ZOHOUR, Lebanon (R) — Khaled Zawied — university student and evictee — sat for his final exam in the history of the Ottoman empire in front of Tent 45. Two university instructors supervised him as other evictees cooked and washed nearby in the icy South Lebanon to which Israel expelled them all last month. "Tell them we have turned the camp into a university," Dr. Abdul Fatah Al Owaisi, who prepared the exam, told Reuters. "If we can get books, we will open classes to our students right here." Mr. Owaisi was Zawied's history teacher at Hebron University in the West Bank.

Germans split over sending troops abroad

BONN (R) — Germans are evenly divided over Chancellor Helmut Kohl's determination to send armed troops abroad on United Nations peace-keeping missions, an opinion poll released Tuesday showed. It showed that 44 per cent of the people polled believed that the role of the German armed forces should remain limited to defending Germany or other allied states from attack. An equal number supported sending German troops on U.N. peace-keeping operations.

Deputies expected to endorse draft budget despite fierce criticism

By Ayman Al Safadi and Mass Alouf
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament is scheduled to vote on the draft budget for 1993 Wednesday with observers expecting a vote of confidence on the document despite the criticism it received from the majority of deputies.

The draft budget will be put to vote after the House listens to the government's response to deputies' speeches.

Fifty-one deputies took the floor in the last three days to voice their views on the draft budget, with the majority of them criticising government policies on poverty, unemployment, taxation and agriculture and showering it with demands for services and projects in their constituencies.

Deputies also lashed at the implementation of economic policies designed in accordance with the "instructions" of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and demanded reform of a government bureaucracy they charged is infested with inefficiency, nepotism and abuse of office.

Most of the 22 deputies who spoke in Tuesday's session echoed complaints and accusations made by other parliamentarians earlier. Deputies said poverty was fast

spreading in the country and blamed government for burdening limited-income citizens with heavy taxes despite the increased cost of living.

Claiming an unfair government distribution of development funds and investment projects among governors and citizens, many deputies warned of a negative social impact of pushing people into the alleys of poverty.

"The continuous deterioration of living standards... and the fast eroding purchasing power of incomes is one of the major elements destabilising social security," Balqa Deputy Fouzi Tuaimeh said, echoing an alarm made by other deputies.

Mr. Tuaimeh reiterated charges of other parliamentarians in claiming that government was concentrating its investments in Amman at the expense of other regions in the Kingdom.

Deputies called for emphasising productive investments in its economic policy to provide more job opportunities and reduce its dependence on imports. They criticised rising imports and urged more attention to the agricultural sector.

And even though there were many calls for reforming government bureaucracy, some deputies came to the defence of the minister of social development and the National Aid Fund, which the

House's Finance Committee, said were following unfair policies in the distribution of their funds among citizens.

The committee said the minister was allocating more funds to his home governorate, Mafrqa.

"We should not target one minister," freshman Deputy Al Azzaideh (Mada'a) said. Mafrqa Deputy Nawaf Al Khawaldeh also defended the minister, saying that Mafrqa, which he said, has the largest rate of poverty in the Kingdom, received its fair share of government assistance without any favouritism.

"I have reservations about the committee's (charge) which was made by the committees president only, that... claimed the minister of social development was abusing office for personal ambitions," Mr. Khawaldeh said.

He said this "unfair accusation gives Mafrqa residents the impression that (the charge was motivated by) personal grudges."

"Why was the minister singled out?" he said.

Many deputies Tuesday castigated the IMF and charged that its "bankrupt" policies aimed to consolidate its hold of the fate of

See page 3 for excerpts from deputies' speeches

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103rd U.S. Congress in office

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gavels banged the 103rd U.S. Congress into session Tuesday, as record numbers of female, black and Hispanic lawmakers gathered on the floor of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The 103rd Congress convened at precisely noon local time, as required by the constitution. The proceedings began under the gaze of visitors' galleries packed with lawmakers' families, friends and constituents.

"The Senate will come to order," Vice-President Dan Quayle shouted four times over the din in the Senate chamber as he banged the gavel. The vice-president presides over the chamber.

The house was brought to business by House clerk Donald Anderson.

Just hours before being sworn into office, some of the House's 110 freshmen — the chamber's biggest group of newcomers in 44 years — agreed that the country's economic problems had to be addressed. But like their veterans,

(Continued on Page 5)

Arab ministers condemn terrorism

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab interior ministers condemned all forms of terrorism Tuesday but stopped short of pointing the finger of blame at Muslim fundamentalist militants or their backers.

Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia, each fighting a sustained fundamentalist challenge, urged the Arab League meeting Monday to create a united front to fight Muslim extremists across the Arab World.

The 16 ministers attending the two-day meeting unanimously adopted a statement condemning "terrorism in all its forms, methods and sources, and all forms of its material and moral support."

Delegates said ministers from countries facing no fundamentalist challenge, opposed any wording associating Islam with terrorism, destruction and criminal acts.

There was a compromise made possible by Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and even Sudan in order to issue a statement worded in such a way that each country can interpret it according to its national interests," one delegate from a Gulf country said.



Mohammad Saad Al Nabulsi

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CBJ restates warning to groups soliciting capital without its permission

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Sunday reiterated its warning to a U.S.-based establishment against soliciting investments from Jordanians. But an official of the American-based group said its activities were "Islamic charity" and was going ahead with its plans.

"We have seen more than one advertisement in the local newspapers inviting investments from Jordanians and our warning was clearly aimed at this company," said CBJ Governor Mohammad Saad Al Nabulsi.

The advertisements, which referred to Islamic concepts of investment, looked "suspi-

cious" and hence the warning to the public, Dr. Nabulsi said.

But Ahmad Ghaiti, an official of the International Islamic Project (IIP) which had placed the advertisements, said he was not aware that the CBJ warning was targeted at his establishment.

"We are in the process of registering a regional office in Amman, and we have not been told that we were the target of the CBJ warning," he told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview from his hotel room in Amman.

The CBJ first issued an indirect warning to the public Sunday against dealing with "irresponsible parties which try to attract investments outside the Kingdom without obtaining CBJ approval."

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In this interview with Al Rai

newspaper, Mr. Arar, who is a former deputy prime minister and ex-speaker of the Lower House, had laid blame for the Ma'an riots on the then governor who, he said, would not receive drivers of "service" taxis who wanted to complain about a Cabinet decision to raise the prices of fuel "but didn't find anyone who will listen to them."

Two former officials, the governor and police chief of Ma'an at the time, published letters in the Arabic daily Al Rai Tuesday criticising the leader of the newly-licensed Al Mustaqbal Party, Sulaiman Arar, for comments he made in an interview with an Arabic daily last week over events leading to the riots in the south of Jordan.

In this interview with Al Rai



King and Queen return home

AMMAN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor returned home from London Tuesday after a several day private visit to the United Kingdom.

King Hussein and Queen Noor were received upon arrival by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Royal family members. Also receiving the King and Queen were Prime Minister Sharif

Zeid Ben Shaker, Lower House of Parliament Speaker

Abdul Latif Arabyat, Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben Nayef, Cabinet ministers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and directors of the General Intelligence and Civil Defence departments.

Returning with Their Majes-

ties were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal Ben Hussein, Princess Alia Al Faisal and Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad.

King Hussein underwent medical checkups last month at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where he had surgery last summer. He then made the private visit to Eng-

U.S. studies 'options' on Iraq missiles

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States Tuesday expressed concern at Iraq's deployment of anti-aircraft missiles in the southern "no-fly" zone, and White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Washington was considering how to respond.

"We're monitoring the missiles. We're very concerned. We're still considering our options," he said during a visit to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, with President George Bush.

The Defense Department con-

firmed that Iraq had moved additional surface-to-air missiles into the southern "no-fly" zone, where an American fighter jet shot down an Iraqi MiG fighter last month.

Pentagon spokesman Bob Hall warned Iraq against turning on the missile targeting radars against U.S. reconnaissance and

(Continued on Page 5)

Tanker spills oil off Scotland

SUMBURGH, Scotland (Agencies) — A stricken tanker ran aground in a storm a year ago and poured oil onto the coast of northern Scotland's Shetland Islands, raising fears of an ecological disaster.

Abandoned by crew after an engine failure, the Liberian-registered Braer hit rocks in heavy seas, threatening to devastate wildlife colonies.

The tanker carried 84,500 tonnes of crude oil, twice as much as spilled by the Exxon Valdez tanker in Alaska four years ago.

"It is going to be virtually impossible to avert a major environmental disaster," said Paul Horsman of the environmental group Greenpeace.

Efforts to contain pollution and save the remote region's abundant bird and marine life were hampered by gale-force winds of up to 100 kilometres per hour.

"Some oil is leaking from the forward tanks. But we cannot get aircraft into the air so we don't know exactly the extent of the leak," said a spokeswoman for the marine pollution control unit in London.

She said it was difficult to predict how much oil would spill or how quickly it would break up.

"It is light crude oil, so it will actually help because it breaks up quite easily. So the weather might deal with the problem for us," she said.

Shetland police sealed off the headland for fear of an explosion.

Press Association, the British national news agency, reported

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Israel stands firm on expulsion despite threat of new U.N. move

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel said Tuesday it stood by its decision to expel 415 Palestinians to Lebanon despite a threat by the U.N. secretary-general to recommend action to force their return.

The men, exiled for alleged links to militant groups, have been left in an icy area for 19 days. Both Israel and Lebanon have disclaimed responsibility for the men.

Israeli spokesman said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Gali he would be welcomed if sent a U.N. envoy to Israel, the second in two weeks.

Dr. Gali told the U.N. Secur-

ity Council Monday that he may have to recommend "further steps" should this second mission also fail to secure the evictees' return as demanded by a Dec. 18 council resolution.

"The policy of the government of Israel is that the act of removal was used in order to protect Israelis as well as Palestinians and this act was accomplished and the government is standing behind the men," spokesman Oded Ben-Ami said.

"We said we are going to welcome the special envoy. We will hear him. We will tell him what is on our mind and that is it for now," said Mr. Ben-Ami, the defence ministry spokesman.

Israeli media quoted government officials as saying the visit by Chinmaya Gharekhan — Dr. Gali's special political adviser and representative to Middle East multilateral peace talks — would at least delay any further Security Council action which could include a threat of sanctions.

Israeli officials declined comment on Dr. Gali's threat except to say that all issues would be addressed during Mr. Gharekhan's visit.

Raphael Ganzou said Mr. Garekhan was to meet Israel's U.N. ambassador Gad Yaacobi

(Continued on Page 5)

Agreement eludes Somali warlords

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Gali said Tuesday warning Somalis factions had failed to agree on holding a peace conference.

But Dr. Gali said exploratory talks in Addis Ababa, which he said had made progress all the same, had been extended by a third day to end Wednesday.

"They still have not agreed on the venue and the date of the conference — neither who will participate," he told reporters.

The U.N.-sponsored meeting in the Ethiopian capital had still made some progress in setting up a committee of three warlords to discuss when and where further talks should be held, he said.

"The glass is half full, because we have been able to create a

peace process," he said. "There had been no contact between Somalis leaders because they were in different places.

In what many saw as a qualified success, the talks brought together the largest gathering ever of warlords who plunged Somalia into chaos two years ago and helped spark a famine in which at least 350,000 people have died.

The roundtable slid towards collapse earlier on Tuesday when a group led by warlord Muhammad Aideed accused the U.N.

Algeria announces censorship, special courts

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's army-backed government announced imminent censorship of press reports on security matters Tuesday and inaugurated special courts to impose exceptionally harsh sentences on Muslim extremists.

"News of a security nature will very soon be submitted to an embargo and will not be publishable without the stamp of the competent services," government spokesman Messaoud Ait Challa told local journalists.

Justice Minister Mohammad Teguia announced late Monday that three courts created by decree last October to crack down on cases of "subversion" and "terrorism" "were ready to start work under anonymous judges."

Under the decree, they must impose the death penalty for offences which would normally get life imprisonment and life for those ordinarily punishable by 10 to 20 years jail. They must double all other jail terms.

Mr. Teguia said he had told the courts he expected "scrupulous application of the law towards the authors of acts of terrorism and

people implicated."

He reminded the courts that Islamic militants had killed police, soldiers, para-military gendarmes and civilians.

Authorities blame members of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), outlawed after it was poised to win general elections in 1991, for killing more than 210 members of the security forces in 1992.

More than 1,200 people arrested in the past two months as suspected militants are likely to appear before the courts, facing sentences ranging from a minimum five years jail to execution by firing squad.

In a case illustrating government concern about reporting of security matters, six journalists spent their third day in cells on Tuesday for reporting the killings last week of five para-military gendarmes.

The facts have not been challenged but their newspaper Al Watan was suspended for "premature" reporting of events in a place covered by "national defence secrecy."

The gendarmerie told Algerian

journalists that the newspaper had not given them time to deploy forces to track the killers or contact the families of the dead men.

They also said the source of the report must have been the killers or a "mole" in the security services, newspapers said.

Mr. Challa denied that censorship would be aimed at muzzling the press.

"But there are limits which must not be passed and these ... go to the superior interests of the nation and respect for those who daily, at the cost of their life, defend the unity and durability of the nation," he said.

The decree creating the new courts defines the crimes they are to punish as any offence against the "security of the state, territorial integrity, stability and normal functioning of institutions" which involves acts affecting personal security or property or undermining state symbols.

The three courts are based in the capital Algiers and the eastern and western cities of Oran and Constantine.

Each court will have five

judges, who cannot be named. Anyone divulging anything enabling them to be identified will be jailed for two to five years.

On Monday, an ordinary court in Annaba sentenced two men to three years jail for possessing subversive tracts.

Interior Minister Mohammad Hardi, who is attending a Tunis conference of Arab interior ministers aimed at forming an Arab front against fundamentalist violence, said Monday the whole Arab World was threatened by terrorism using Islam as an excuse.

He said Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt had been chosen as prime targets because of their strategic situations and growing problems.

The government, which has steadily escalated its fight against the militants, slapped an indefinite night curfew last month on the capital Algiers and six nearby provinces and arrested scores of suspects.

The official news agency APS said on Sunday 69 "terrorists" had been seized in the latest round-up preparing to attack security forces.



A starving Somali child, arriving from Baidoa, waits for food at a feeding centre (AFP photo)

Rights group reports fighting in Djibouti

PARIS (R) — A human rights group in Djibouti said Tuesday fighting had broken out in the Red Sea state between government forces and rebels and could have claimed hundreds of casualties in the past week.

The Djibouti Association for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedom said in a statement received in Paris that government forces had launched an all-out offensive against Afar rebels from the northern town of Tadjourah.

The group said government forces, under orders to capture at any cost a strategic road out of Tadjourah from the rebel Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD), were fighting with suicidal determination. "Several hundred people could have killed or wounded in fighting of unprecedented violence," it said.

It said rebels had reached the town's southern and northern suburbs in a counter-offensive Monday night.

The group said that what it called the government's all-out war policy could plunge Djibouti into civil war similar to that in neighbouring Somalia.

A U.S.-led multinational force intervened in Somalia to stop warring factions diverting aid from starving refugees. France has contributed more than 2,000 soldiers to the force, including some 1,000 from its 4,500-strong garrison in Djibouti.

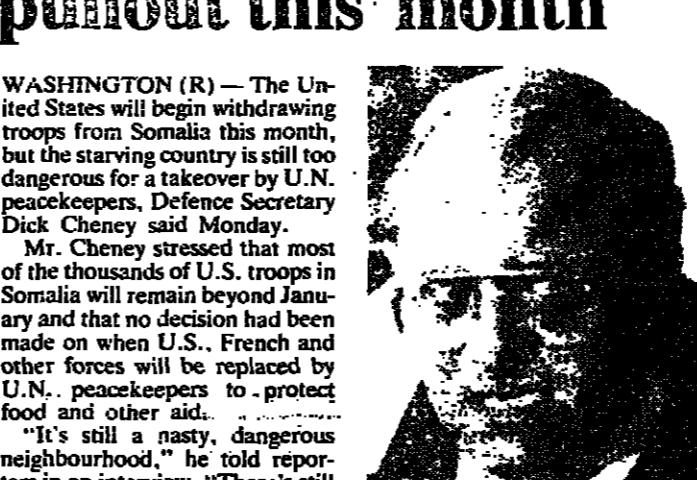
In a separate statement, FRUD urged France to resume relief aid to the 150,000 to 200,000 residents of Djibouti's rebel-held area.

It said French relief workers and doctors left the region on Dec. 31 at the request of the Djibouti government.

"FRUD regrets that the principle of humanitarian interference was overcome by reasons of state," it said.

The human rights association has said civilians in rebel-held areas were being deprived of food and medical aid by a government blockade.

FRUD repeated it was prepared to open negotiations with the government without any pre-conditions. A French plan for direct talks fell apart last year after the government demanded that the rebels release prisoners before a dialogue could start.



Richard Cheney

but that no decision had been made.

The secretary confirmed statements by U.S. military officials in Somalia that the Pentagon had decided to cut the total number of troops being sent to Somalia from 28,000 to 24,000 because of cooperation from other countries in sending troops.

U.S. troops already account for more than 20,000 of the 28,000 foreign troops so far involved in the military effort to protect relief supplies for famine-stricken Somalia from looting gunmen.

"But that will be a beginning. We will by no means have a large number redeployed by then. It will start the process, that's the current plan," he cautioned.

The Bush administration has voiced hopes that some U.S. troops would begin coming home before President-elect Bill Clinton takes office on Jan. 20. But the Pentagon has stressed that the current military job is to create an atmosphere of safety in the country, where there is anarchy.

In the capital of Mogadishu Monday, the U.S. military denied a report quoting a French military officer as saying the transfer of military control in Somalia would not be free of widespread violence among warring factions and brigands.

He called the murder of a British U.N. Children's Fund relief worker in the southern port of Kismayu Saturday "evidence that it's still a nasty, dangerous neighbourhood."

U.S. to begin Somalia pullout this month

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States will begin withdrawing troops from Somalia this month, but the starving country is still too dangerous for a takeover by U.N. peacekeepers, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said Monday.

Mr. Cheney stressed that most of the thousands of U.S. troops in Somalia will remain beyond January and that no decision had been made on when U.S., French and other forces will be replaced by U.N. peacekeepers to protect food and other aid.

"It's still a nasty, dangerous neighbourhood," he told reporters in an interview. "There's still a lot of work to be done to provide for the kind of secure environment that we would like to be able to pass on to the U.N."

The group said that what it called the government's all-out war policy could plunge Djibouti into civil war similar to that in neighbouring Somalia.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Mubarak sends message to Qaddafi

CAIRO (AP) — A cabinet minister said Tuesday he would travel to Libya to relay a message from President Hosni Mubarak to Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. Information Minister Safwat Al Shehri told reporters the message concerned "issues that interest Egypt and Libya." He did not elaborate. Egypt has been trying to mediate an end to Libya's crisis with the West. Mr. Mubarak and Colonel Qaddafi were in touch by telephone twice in the last few days, but no details of their conversations were disclosed.

Syrian newspaper warns of united Europe

DAMASCUS (AP) — The Arabs must work for greater cohesion or risk being dominated by a new, united Europe, the government-run daily newspaper Tishrin said Tuesday. "The Arabs will be the target of the European giant, which views the Arab World as a convenient vital area for consolidating its power," the newspaper said in an editorial. "The competition that inevitably will arise between America, Japan and the united Europe will actually push the latter to tighten its grip on the Arab World," it added. The newspaper said the European Community's moves towards unity, such as the abolition of border controls between most member nations Jan. 1, meant that the Arabs must try to close ranks.

Lebanese police seize 8 tonnes of hashish

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese police confiscated Tuesday eight tonnes of hashish and arrested three drug dealers as they were preparing to ship the grass to Holland. The chief of police Major General Mohammad Kubrousi said it was the largest amount of hashish seized in a single bust in Lebanon's history. He estimated the shipment to be worth \$8 million. The Lebanese government, in an attempt to improve its international image, has ordered a crackdown on drug cultivation and trafficking across the country.

U.S. may sell chemical plant to Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is considering whether to approve the sale of a \$100 million chemical plant to Iran even though it could produce a chemical warfare agent as a byproduct, according to a published report. The Washington Post says in Tuesday's editions that the Commerce Department is backing the sale of the plant by B.P.-America, which has told the administration the plant would only produce materials for synthetic fibers. The Post said officials at the departments of State and Defense oppose the deal because the plant would yield hydrogen cyanide as an unavoidable byproduct. That substance was used as a chemical warfare agent in World War I by France, Britain and Russia. The Post also reported that administration officials were expected to consider a plan by the Ayres Corporation to sell Iran 10 airplanes worth \$7 million to spray chemical pesticides on farm crops. The newspaper quoted Fred P. Ayres, president of the company, as saying the planes cannot be used to spray chemical warfare agents without endangering the pilots.

Turkey sends relief supplies to South Ossetia

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey sent a Red Crescent convoy of six trucks of relief supplies Monday to the Georgian region of South Ossetia, a Foreign Ministry official said. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ferhat Ataman said the trucks carried 62 tonnes of aid including food, vitamins, medicines and generators, he said. The aid was valued at \$600,000. "The aid will be distributed to all ethnic groups without discrimination," Mr. Ataman said. He said Georgia had given consent to the aid shipment to the region, which has been torn by civil war. In December, the Red Crescent Society shipped 500 tonnes of medical supplies to the separatist Georgian region of Abkhazia.

Avalanches in Turkey kill at least 5

SIRNAK: Turkey (AP) — Avalanches killed at least five villagers in Sirnak province in southeastern Turkey, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said. An avalanche buried 15 villagers Sunday as they were collecting wood near the town of Beytussebap, Anatolia said. Rescue teams dug out eight peasants and found three dead, it said. Rescuers gave up the search for four others at nightfall. Sirnak Governor Mustafa Malay of Sirnak province said in an interview Monday, "I have no hope that we can pull out them alive," he initially said. "But the search will resume tomorrow," he added. Another avalanche in the town of Beytussebap Monday killed two villagers, the agency said. Turkey has been in the grip of cold weather and heavy snows for the past month. More than 2,000 villages, mainly in southeastern Turkey, were isolated by snow-blocked roads. Avalanches in southeastern and northern Turkey claimed six lives last week, and snowfalls last year, mainly in eastern and southeastern Turkey, have killed more than 240 people.

Yemen to start registering voters for poll

SANA (R) — Yemen will start registering voters this month for its first general election since the unification of North and South Yemen in 1990, officials said. The election, planned for April, will select 301 representatives for Yemen's parliament. The officials said the higher election committee began preparing Monday for voter registration from Jan. 18 to Feb. 16. The election was initially planned for November 1992. The higher election committee postponed the poll in October saying it needed time to register voters and check candidates.

Tajik refugees housed in Afghan bunkers

ISLAMABAD (R) — Refugees from Tajikistan's civil war are digging bunkers in a refugee camp in the desert of northern United Nations officials said Monday. About 6,000 refugees have been moved into the camp in northern Afghanistan, 25 kilometres from the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, out of the estimated 40,000-50,000 who have fled across the border from Tajikistan. The refugees have so far dug 30 underground shelters, about two metres deep and 30 metres long and five metres wide, and able to house about six families each, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said in a statement issued in Islamabad. Heavy-duty tents provided from Pakistan and Turkey have proved insufficient against the fierce winter storms, the UNHCR said.

Relief aid reaches Sudan rebel town

KHARTOUM (R) — Relief supplies have started reaching famine-hit southern Sudan after an agreement between the government and southern rebels to open river, rail and land routes for food deliveries, a Khartoum newspaper said Tuesday.

The armed forces newspaper Al Gintar Al Musallaha said river barges with 1,900 tonnes of food and medicines reached Nasir, a town on the Ethiopian border held by the rebel Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA), in the last two days.

The SPLA is fighting for autonomy

from 1979 to 1989, are believed to be training mercenaries to fight holy wars in other Muslim countries.

On Tuesday, Pakistan told the seven major rebel groups to close dozens of offices in the frontier city of Peshawar and in the federal capital of Islamabad by Jan. 31, said a government spokesman.

Peshawar said several northern African and Gulf countries have accused aid organisations in Pakistan of arming and training Islamic fundamentalists who return to their homelands to try to unseat the more liberal governments.

So far, government officials have refused to say how many aid groups have been ordered to leave or how many employees are involved in the deportation order, or what countries they represent.

Pakistani government officials said Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's conservative government was fed up with the bickering Afghan

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Peshawar said several northern African and Gulf countries have accused aid organisations in Pakistan of arming and training Islamic fundamentalists who return to their homelands to try to unseat the more liberal governments.

So far, government officials have refused to say how many aid groups have been ordered to leave or how many employees are involved in the deportation order, or what countries they represent.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 8, Arqa 17 Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Arqa 41 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Jamil Marzuq 776149 Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 882853 Dr. Balqees Bader 849362 Dr. Hisham Kanan 797361 Firas pharmacy 661912 Firdous pharmacy 671755 Naimah pharmacy 623

First Arab appointed bishop in 30 years

AMMAN (J.T.) — For the first time in thirty years, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch in Jerusalem has appointed an Arab priest to serve as a bishop in Jordan.

Born in Beirut where his parents emigrated after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, Simon Jabra Al Far studied initially in Ramallah schools before moving to Syria and Lebanon for theologic-

al studies. He graduated in 1985 with a BA degree. Soon after graduation he became a priest and was assigned a number of posts in Jerusalem. This appointment as a bishop came less than a month after the Arab Orthodox community in Palestine and Jordan held its general conference in Amman to demand that the leadership of the church in Arab lands should be given to Arab priests.

Caritas receives Euro aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Caritas, a local charity, announced Tuesday that it has begun receiving food supplies from European countries destined for needy Jordanians in the winter season.

"We have just received shipments of flour and cooking oil from Italy, and soon we are going to receive 60 tonnes of powdered milk from the European Community," said Caritas Director Father Mousa Adel.

The shipments, together with clothes and blankets, will be distributed to victims of severe winter weather under a special programme similar to one implemented in the past year, said Father Adel. Caritas currently operates seven medical centres and 10 vocational centres for the poor and, according to Father Adel, operations are being con-



Aid for former Soviets is loaded onto a cargo plane in Amman Tuesday (Petra photo)

Food and medicine sent to ex-Soviets

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Tuesday dispatched a shipment of food and medical supplies to Muslims in Abkhazia and Kabardino Balkar, two former Soviet republics.

"The plane load of relief supplies will benefit the needy Muslims who have been complaining of drug shortages lately due to slow economic and other developments," said Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, chairman of the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO).

The plane which left Amman Tuesday is carrying 17 tonnes of medical and other relief supplies contributed by the JHCO in

cooperation with local Jordanian charity institutions explained Dr. Abbadi, who said that it was sent upon the directives of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the Jordanian government.

The shipment emphasises the Kingdom's desire to rally support of Muslim communities and provide them with humanitarian aid, said Dr. Abbadi.

Jordan has dispatched shipments of relief aid to Somalia, Iraq, Egypt, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Sudan and the Chechen-Ingush republics when they were facing difficult times in view of natural disasters or in the wake of conflicts.

Prince Hassan tours rural communities Encourages development and praises farmers

IRBID (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has urged rural communities in the northern regions of Jordan to expand and upgrade their voluntary work and involve the youth sector in all voluntary endeavours.

Each and every Jordanian citizen should consider himself a partner in shouldering responsibility for his country's development, Prince Hassan said during a tour of Irbid governorate Monday.

For decentralisation, we ought to transcend personal and individual interests and embark on collective action on the part of the local councils in matters that can benefit the whole community," said Prince Hassan at a meeting held at Deir Abi Saeed, the first stop on his tour.

The Regent toured the Bani Kinaneh and Northern Jordan Valley as well as the Taybeh districts in the Irbid Governorate and was given an enthusiastic welcome by the local inhabitants who cheered and national dances.

The Prince took time to chat with farmers involved in ploughing their fields and held discussions with notables in the areas he visited.

One group of officials he talked to at a local school in Deir Abi Saeed outlined the various public services and planned projects for



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan amongst the throng in Irbid Tuesday (Petra photo)

general and the youth sector in particular are called on to double their efforts and enhance their cooperation towards attaining accomplishments at all levels, said Prince Hassan. After listening to an outline of the services, the Regent moved on to northern Shuneh where he inspected a tourist project and addressed a rally of local inhabitants mostly farmers. He said that the meeting will be only one in a long chain of meetings in the future.

Urging everyone to increase

their efforts towards achieving further progress, Prince Hassan said that farmers ought to be involved in decision making. Non participation by the farmers in matters related to agriculture is a negative aspect that should end, said the Prince.

The Regent suggested the organisation of agricultural fairs and the convening of a general conference by farmers and agro-nomists to discuss means of overcoming obstacles impeding development.

Parliament members present views on 1993 budget along with their demands

The following are extracts from speeches made by Lower House of Parliament members Tuesday:

Deputy Ali Al Faqir Amman

Deputy Faqir called on the ministry of finance to consult with the deputies on the needs of their constituencies before finalising the budget, so that deputies will not have to explain their constituents' needs time and time again. He demanded that the government expand the ring road linking the Pepsi Cola factory and Ouwaisah Customs Department. He also called for improving the situation of the refugee camp in Jabal Hussein and Mahtata.

Deputy Ata Shahwan Amman

Deputy Shahwan praised the 1993 budget saying that it tackled several subjects, including unemployment and poverty, however, it could not achieve equity for all since some of the projects are concentrated in certain areas at the expense of others. He called for strengthening the agricultural sector, describing it as the nerve centre of the Jordanian economy. He called on the government to adopt an effective agricultural policy and to support the Ministry of Agriculture to enable it carry out agricultural reform plans. He criticised the manner through which the National Aid Fund has dealt with the poverty problem, saying that the method was neither successful nor fair.

Deputy Imteir Al Bustanji Karak

Deputy Bustanji called for institutionalising general policies in the areas of health and education, and for directing education to meet the labour market needs. He also called for creating a nursing college at Mutah University and for speeding up work on the construction of Karak hospital. Mr. Bustanji called for constructing earth dams and allocating funds for constructing agricultural roads in Karak governorate. He called on the government to direct special attention to the south and to deal with the problems of poverty and unemployment. He suggested the creation of a fund to be financed through profits achieved by the major companies, based in the

Deputy Ibrahim Al Ghabashsheh Tafleeh

Deputy Ghabashsheh called on the government to stop imposing more taxes, especially those introduced by temporary laws, saying that such taxes are adding to the citizens' burdens and widening the pockets of poverty in Jordan. The Tafleeh deputy urged the government to raise the salaries of army and security forces personnel as well as working and retired civil servants. Describing the 1993 budget as an advanced and unique one, Mr. Ghabashsheh said it still failed to seriously tackle the problems of unemployment and poverty. "I warn the executive authority and ask it to swiftly move to study the situation as soon as possible and to find the suitable solutions to contain it before it is too late," he said. Mr. Ghabashsheh criticised the performance of the Development and Employment Fund (DEF) and the National Aid Fund (NAF) and called on the government to hire "the right man for the right place" in the two funds.

Deputy Abdul Mumim Abu Zant Amman

Deputy Abu Zant called for easing taxes, increasing allocations of the Ministry of Social Development, and Ministry of Health and establishing more health centres. He called for privatising the telecommunications corporation and for establishing a hospital in Jabal Nazzal. He also called on the government to seriously consider the cancellation of evening shifts at the government schools.

Deputy Hamza Mansour Amman

Deputy Mansour voiced support for the Financial Committee's report, and stressed the need to control prices and reconsider the criteria followed in filling public posts. He also voiced support for demands made by the Islamic bloc in the House. Mr. Mansour called on the government to appoint more employees at mosques, saying that many mosques have only one employee whose duties include leading and calling for the prayers among other things. The Muslim Brotherhood Deputy called for establishing schools in the areas of Abu Alanda, Al Riqqa, and Umm Qaseer and to establish a hospital in Sahab area south of Amman.

Deputy Yousef Khasawneh Irbid

Deputy Khasawneh called for finding a solution to the unemployment problem, supporting the health sector, particularly private sector doctors through floating health insurance plans. He criticised government officials for condoning favouritism in appointments, and he called for giving the financial audit and control departments a broader role.

Deputy Ahmad Al Kafaween Karak

Deputy Kafaween warned the rising number of the unemployed in Karak Governorate and complained of nepotism and tribalism in filling vacant government posts. He also called for giving due attention to infrastructure projects in the governorate and expanding Mu'ta University. Mr. Kafaween stressed the importance of raising the salaries of army and government employees and linking all villages in the governorate with electric power at reasonable costs.

Deputy Daoud Qojaq Amman

Deputy Qojaq said he was surprised that the financial committee described the draft budget as a step in the right direction. He said the budget depended heavily on internal financing, mainly by increasing taxes and thus increasing commodity prices every now and then. The financial committee ignored the fact that "financial reform does not come from an administration which does not start by administrative reform first," he said. The Muslim Brotherhood Deputy called for decentralisation, holding municipal elections and expanding infrastructure projects. He also called for exempting beneficiaries from the Abu Nasir housing project from interest rates due on their monthly installments.

Deputy Fawzi Tueimeh Balqa

Dr. Tueimeh called on the government not to impose any new taxes nor to increase the existing once in order to enhance the economy. Such enhancement could be made through curtailing current expenditure without touching capital expenditure, he said. He called for establishing a higher council for education, culture and science, to ensure coordination and integration between the various sources of culture, education and information.

Deputy Ibrahim Khreisat Balqa

Deputy Khreisat called the government to address unemployment problems in the governorate, and for the best utilisation of arable land. He also called for increasing salaries of government employees and for building more hospitals and health centres. He called for the establishment of sport, and cultural clubs, and the conversion of Salt Community college into a faculty attached to the University of Jordan.

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Deputy Ziad Abu Mahfouz Zarqa

Deputy Abu Mahfouz pressed the government to continue subsidising basic food stuffs and not to impose new taxes. He also stressed the need to embark on implementing developmental and infrastructure projects by the beginning of the year and fill vacant posts as early as possible to solve the problem of unemployment. He urged the government to study the prices of cars and their spare parts and to find solutions to poverty through increasing the allocations for the National Aid Fund and the Development and Employment Fund.

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Opinion & Analysis

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Thinking about 1995

IN THE aftermath of the signing of the new START II agreement it might appear that the two largest nuclear weapon states have striven far on the long march aimed at fulfilling their obligation, under the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), to work towards substantive nuclear disarmament. The NPT is up for review in 1995 and, at that time, those states which agreed to enter under the treaty's terms as non-nuclear weapons possessors will judge the fidelity of the nuclear weapon states to their NPT obligations. That judgement will be important in determining whether and how long the NPT will be extended.

We, here in Jordan, have been pointing to one major weakness which works against NPT extension: The continued overlooking of the problem of known nuclear arms possessors by their powerful patrons. One nuclear weapons-equipped state in particular, namely Israel, has been allowed to escape pressure to sign the NPT — even as its illicit weapons programme contributes to regional destabilisation and a costly arms build-up.

Yet a second serious problem also lurks behind the glitter and clinking of glasses in the Grand Palace of the Kremlin. The continued economic demoralisation of the former Soviet states threatens to create conditions world-wide which could render the NPT unworkable and even more impotent than at present.

Without economic stabilisation of the nuclear armed states of Kazakhstan, Belarus, Ukraine and Russia, a whole Pandora's Box of proliferation problems will be opened. Thousands of scientists, technicians, "special weapons" trained military personnel and weapons' designers are sinking in the economic and social morass of the former Soviet Union. In addition, the region is littered with nuclear reactors capable of enriching uranium to the level required for making weapons. The need for cash, mixed with the present collapse in the system of accounting and control, provides incentives for entrepreneurship of an unwanted kind — a bizarre nuclear bazaar.

While the Bush administration deserves credit for the two START agreements, it has been roundly condemned by such luminaries in American politics as former President Richard Nixon, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Sam Nunn and the ranking Republican on that committee, Richard Lugar, for an inability to provide sufficient attention to or funds for the stabilisation of the economies of nations which still possess weapons of mass destruction.

There is some hope that the Clinton administration will avoid this problem. The appointment of Les Aspin to the post of secretary of defence as well as the large number of experienced ex-Carter administration foreign policy advisers bodes well for arms control and non-proliferation.

The Democratic White House and Congress, working together, can be expected to support increased aid to the ex-Soviet states, continue the nuclear test ban and discontinue the warhead modernisation programme which, while it has its safety aspects, was primarily aimed at developing smaller nuclear weapons for use in tactical situations.

Such policies should help to stabilise the situation in the former Soviet Union and ensure that the 1995 review occurs under favourable circumstances. Harsh economic adjustment breeds social discontent and instability even if its long term benefits seem worthwhile. But it is almost axiomatic that states with enough nuclear megatonnage to make the rubble bounce on a world scale ought to be allowed adjustment under smoother social conditions. New thinking is indeed in order.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily discussed the question of the evictees and the future attempts on the part of individual countries to repatriate them and to force the Israelis to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions. Instead of taking immediate measures to repatriate the 400 evictees and stop altogether the ongoing atrocities exercised against the Palestinians, the world community is merely discussing supplying the exiled people with meals and arguing which party, Lebanon or Israel, should do that, added the paper. While individual countries, like France, or organisations, like the Red Cross, are trying to ensure the provision of food to the Palestinians, Arab countries suffice themselves with issuing statements of condemnation of Israel's actions without taking any meaningful step to ensure the return of the expelled people, the paper continued. It said, that what the Arabs should do to counter the Rabin government's moves in this crisis is to demand the repatriation of the evictees if the Arab delegations are to resume their meeting with the Israeli delegations in Washington. This demand on the Arab side can force Israel to implement Security Council Resolution 799 which ordered Israel to return the exiled Palestinians to their homes, added the daily. The paper said that should Israel comply with this demand, the way will be open for pressuring it to respect and implement the other U.N. resolutions on the Palestine problem. But, the paper said, should Israel reject the Arab demand, it would appear clearly that it is not willing to contemplate the implementation of the other resolutions on which the peace process has been based.

Sawt Al Shabab daily bitterly criticised an article in Al Siyassah daily, of Kuwait, which announced that it is the Palestinians and the Iraqis who are the enemies of the Kuwaiti people and not Israel. This is a very serious development and should be examined carefully by the Arab countries in general and the Arab League in particular since it calls for a complete change in pan-Arab strategy, said the daily. It is not strange to hear such a statement from Al Siyassah Editor Ahmad Jarallah who had made a visit to Israel and demanded a normalisation of relations between the Arabs and Israel but we consider this dangerous since it tends to cause more splits among the Arab states, the paper said. The Arab masses realise that the Kuwaitis have failed to do anything meaningful to help the Palestinians: on the contrary, they took steps to cause them further sufferings, added the daily.

Economic Forum

The rigidity of fiscal targets

By Dr. Abdalla Makti

In the five-year period, starting from the beginning of 1988 to the end of 1992, the cost of living index rose by 75 per cent, reflecting mainly the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar. This index is the best available measure of inflation in Jordan.

During the same period, the average nominal wage rose by no more than 15 per cent to 25 per cent. In other words, the purchasing power of the wages and salaries of various employees has been eroded by 50 per cent. The government has failed to compensate them for this erosion.

Arabs have been very good reasons for that. The budget of the central government has been in the red all this period so it cannot afford to give a pay raise. Moreover, the economic adjustment programme calls for cutting the fiscal deficit in absolute terms and as a percentage of gross domestic product. Obviously, Jordan faces a socio-economic dilemma here: is it only fair to increase wages but that will violate the imperatives of the economic adjustment process, as defined by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Phasing out a budget deficit can be achieved through compressing public expenditures or boosting revenues. There is almost a consensus that these expenditures are not compressible any more without jeopardising certain economic, social and administrative basics. This is probably why the emphasis has been put on

increasing revenues to narrow the budget gap, especially through tax hikes.

But taxes are also not increaseable beyond a certain limit known, technically, as the taxable capacity. There are academic evidence and practical signs that taxes in Jordan have already been pushed beyond that limit. The trouble is that phasing out our budget deficit calls for more tax increases which will strain the nerves of the economy and tax-payers who are already badly hit by the above mentioned erosion of their real incomes.

We do not know how the government thinks and how it is going to tackle the problem emanating from reaching a point where expenditures are not compressible and revenues are not increaseable, given its commitments towards the IMF under the economic adjustment programme on the one hand and its obligations towards limited-income groups on the other.

However, this combination provides conclusive evidence that the part of the adjustment programme which relates to the budget deficit is rigid, very rigid in fact. To reasonable planners, such rigidity necessitates a reconsideration of the fiscal targets as to relax them in the way of accepting higher levels of the fiscal deficit (as a ratio of GDP) and prolonging the fulfilment period. This argument should be spelled out to the IMF people in as forceful terms as possible unless, of course, our policy-makers are willing

to ignore, to the bitter end, the ramifications of wage freezes.

If the fiscal targets are not to be adjusted, there will be two alternatives. First, to boost the external revenues of the government through more foreign grants and, as the last resort, through internal or external loans. Second, to rationalise imports of (goods and services) through direct controls.

The aim of controlling imports is to bring about a reduction in them as to augment the economic adjustment efforts aimed at remedying the external trade balance. The importance of harnessing the budget deficit in the context of the adjustment process stems, from the fact, or the assumption, that the elimination of the deficit will cut the demand of the public sector for imports, which initially contributed to the imbalance of the external sector of the economy and thereby to our foreign indebtedness. The IMF should have no objection to achieving the same end by different means and thereafter accept different fiscal targets that allow Jordan to cater for socio-economic problems. And mind you: Economic growth and employment are not negatively correlated with budget deficits.

Schemes of economic reform, including adjustment programmes, cannot succeed if they overlook social problems or produce them. The erosion of real wages is one good example of these problems.

Freedom House finds some 'bright spots' in Middle East

By Norma Holmes

WASHINGTON — The global movement towards a more open, integrated and freer world found a few bright spots" in the Middle East in 1992, but was widely challenged by civil wars, nationalism, and religious and ethnic conflict, according to Freedom House's twenty-second annual "Survey of Freedom in the World."

Throughout the Middle East this year there were contradictory trends of liberalisation and repression," although more than half the world has now adopted democratic political systems, according to the survey.

The report, which covers 180 nations and 66 territories, does not equate democracy with freedom, however. "By the beginning of next year there will likely be 31 democracies where substantial human rights violations occur every day," says R. Bruce McColm, executive director of the New York-based fifty-year-old non-profit human rights advocacy group.

The survey for 1992 reflects a startling increase in the number of countries where freedom is in a state of change.

In the Middle East, three nations — Kuwait, Oman and the United Arab Emirates changed categories from "Not Free" to "Partly Free," and Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen improved their numerical ratings while Egypt's rating declined.

Israel, Bangladesh and Nepal were the only three states of the Near Eastern and South Asia region whose average Freedom House ratings were "free."

Among the "partly free" were Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Tunisia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Kuwait and

Yemen.

Amidst the "few bright spots," the report cited: "Jordan's King Hussein abolished the remnants of martial law in effect since 1967 and allowed the formation of political parties for the first time in thirty-six years. Kuwait re-established its parliament and held elections in October that unexpectedly led to a large victory for parties opposing the Al Sabah attempt."

Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Iran, Qatar and Saudi Arabia were among 22 nations reported to have declined in freedom without changing category.

The Freedom House Report states that 1992 was "the bloodiest year in Egypt since the assassination of Anwar Sadat in 1981, as Muslim fundamentalists attacked Coptic Christians in the south." The report also observes that Egypt, "known for its relatively unfettered press...imposed an unprecedented degree of censorship."

The survey found that the United Arab Emirates "marginally improved and the rulers of each emirate now address citizen grievances and opinions in consultative councils. The country also has a budding women's movement."

Morocco adopted a new constitution that enlarges the powers of parliament and places limits on the king, although "King Hassan II continues to play a dominant role in the country's political affairs."

And in December 1991, Oman launched a two-year experimental Majlis Al Shura, or consultative council, with candidates elected popularly in each of the country's 59 provinces.

On the negative side, the report notes that "President Saddam Hussein continues to violate Gulf war ceasefire agreements by attacking Kurds in the north and Shiites in the far south; United Nations Inspector Max van der

Stael said hundreds of thousands of Shiites, Kurds and political prisoners are in danger of execution and detention...scarcely a day passes without executions or hangings, and there are reports of conflicts between various security forces after a reported coup attempt."

Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Iran, Qatar and Saudi Arabia were among 22 nations reported to have declined in freedom without changing category.

The Freedom House Report states that 1992 was "the bloodiest year in Egypt since the assassination of Anwar Sadat in 1981, as Muslim fundamentalists attacked Coptic Christians in the south." The report also observes that Egypt, "known for its relatively unfettered press...imposed an unprecedented degree of censorship."

The survey found that the Tunisian government continued its crackdown on fundamentalists, especially the banned Al Nahda party. "A very restrictive law on association passed in February 1992 effectively limited the work of the famous Tunisian Human Rights League, which finally chose to disband in June rather than obey the new statute."

In Sudan, "torture, extra-judicial round-ups and detention by the state security apparatus" were reported. In July, the Sudanese government "initiated a massive resettlement programme, destroying nearly 500,000 homes," and reports that "Hasan Al Turabi's movement was training guerrillas sparked a new anti-terrorist legislation."

The Freedom House survey classifies as "not free" Afghanistan, Algeria, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Syria.

Algeria's much heralded transition to a multiparty system collapsed with the cancellation of the second round of elections after the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) swept in the December polls, the report points out. The military forced the resignation of president Chadli Benjedid and dissolved the National Assembly and the Constitutional Council.

"Virtually all constitutional rights were suspended as the situation deteriorated into a year of assassinations and unrestricted detention."

Although Iran held its first parliamentary elections in four years, the report states that "the Revolutionary Guards were used throughout the year to crush anti-government protests."

And in Saudi Arabia in March, King Fahd "put forth his plan to introduce a consultative council and some type of constitution, while encouraging a crackdown on behaviour deemed anti-Islamic."

In the rating of territories, the Ismaili occupied territories and Kurdish territories in Iraq were listed as "partly free" while Kashmir (India) and Western Sahara (Morocco) were listed as "not free."

Freedom House findings are based on reports by human rights organisations, rapporteurs, political leaders, journalists, regional newspapers and magazines.

The 1992-93 yearbook, "Freedom in the World: Political Rights and Civil Liberties," which includes lengthy analyses of each country and territory, will be available from Freedom House in March 1993 — United States Information Agency.

Restructuring consumption patterns for sustainability

By Jyoti K. Parikh

WHY SHOULD the North reduce consumption? Wouldn't that lead to recession and loss of jobs in the North and less exports and slower growth for the South?"

These questions were asked after the India Gandhi Institute of Development Research prepared a paper entitled "Consumption Patterns," at the request of the UNCED Secretariat. It pointed out that industrialised countries, despite having only 24 per cent of the global population, consume 85 per cent of the world's metals, 92 per cent of its cars, 85 per cent of its chemicals, 81 per cent of its paper, 78 per cent of sawn wood, 72 per cent of cereals and 48 per cent of cotton.

They also consume 82 per cent of gasoline, 72 per cent of diesel, 85 per cent of gas and 82 per cent of electricity.

If the climate change convention is to be taken seriously, the present consumption patterns will have to be restructured and it can hardly be painless. Some jobs may be lost, but new ones would also be created. For example, jobs lost in car manufacturing could be balanced by those gained in laying railway tracks and manufacturing railway wagons and cabins. Research efforts and expenditure for armaments could instead be directed to research for renewable water and sanitation at low costs.

Remember, the South needs food, clothing, housing, books, soaps, drugs and other items in large quantities. Thus, we may still have large needs for consumption in the South that could provide jobs in both hemispheres. A different kind of global

consumption pattern has to emerge as neither poverty nor excessive consumption is sustainable.

Restructuring of all economies is needed, but especially those of the North. The rich of the South emulate consumption patterns of the North, while commercials and all pervasive media invite the poor of the South to follow them in turn. The North must take the lead to change consumption patterns and to send correct signals to the South.

Eventually, what we need is an 80 per cent reduction in carbon emissions and this will not be accomplished by technology and prices alone. Alternative technologies which do not compromise lifestyle have been talked about for a long time. But it is time we thought of alternative lifestyles. This is because technologies which seem promising often turn out to be dead ends.

Some technologies substitute one set of resources with another. Most of these reduce resource consumption by 10 to 25 per cent. Some technologies, on an individual basis, may reduce resource requirements by 75 per cent, but this might not be realised as a societal average due to a number of reasons.

Technologies based on renewables, even if their price tags are reduced, would also require restructuring and even then these may not be the final answer. Sustainable development will have to involve changes in lifestyle. That does not mean to compromise happiness or deny a rich menu of choices. We could have many choices of low resource consumption. On the one hand,

we could look to the past when our lifestyles were more in harmony with nature and on the other, we could think of futuristic options such as smart cars controlled by computers.

Sustainability is not just about not compromising options of future generations, but also about removing disparities in the world today and enhancing options of the present generation. The development options based on cheap oil were taken away from the South twenty years ago and options to grow without constraints of global warming no longer exist. The South has not used its fair share in the environmental space and needs it now more than ever before. Therefore, North-South transfers have to be an integral part of any global strategy for sustainable development.

Only those technologies — developed in either the North or the South — which are less expensive than the emission quotas purchased from the South, would be considered cost effective. Most importantly, the CO₂ emissions would be controlled because only a limited amount of quotas would be issued.

The monitoring required for ATEQ is no different from any other monitoring. ATEQ could achieve the triple objectives of reducing poverty, reducing greenhouse gases and achieving sustainability, at lower costs. If the poor get their fair share of the global environmental resources as soon as possible, sustainable development is a possibility. Otherwise it is the pastime of a chosen few.

A carbon tax appears to be a favoured measure of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries to reduce fossil fuel consumption, and the World Resource Institute (WRI), the World Bank and others have written on the subject. But a carbon tax in the North alone will be pointless, because the South will then become a dumping ground for carbon-intensive activities and global emissions will not be reduced by much.

A carbon tax would make sense only if North-South transfer were an integral part of the strategy on what happens to the carbon tax. For example, the collected carbon tax could be spent to purchase annually tradeable emission quotas (ATEQ) from the South, in order to gener-

ate funds for its development. Transfers would therefore be in proportion to unutilised emission quotas and not according to the whims of the funding agencies. In this way, countries of the South will have incentives to choose their development patterns wisely and will also reduce CO₂ emissions from the beginning rather than after 30 years.

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Agreement eludes Somali warlords

(Continued from Page 1)
the secretary-general downwards, have failed time and again to demonstrate an understanding of the intricate problems in Somalia. The most recent example is the present conference."

Dr. Ghaili refused to identify Gen. Aideed as an obstacle to the progress of the talks, which set out with the modest agenda of persuading some 15 factions to agree on the reconciliation conference.

"If you want to find a solution, you have to discuss with the good boys and the bad boys," he said.

Gen. Aideed's faction said the United Nations had invited what it called "individual dissidents and splinter groups" to the talks and was "too meddling" in its dealings with Somali leaders.

Aides of Gen. Aideed's bitter rival Ali Mahdi Mohammad said a series of meetings between factions Tuesday afternoon had ended in deadlock.

Aden Abdullah Noor, chairman of the Somali Patriotic Movement, said all factions but Gen. Aideed's were nearing agreement on a ceasefire to be followed by withdrawal into the home areas of their respective clans.

Gen. Aideed's faction, which holds large territories outside its homeland, rejected the proposal, arguing for a ceasefire in place,

said Mr. Abdullah.

Mohammad Ali Mohamed, an official of Mr. Ali Mabdi's group, said he favoured extending the conference — which had been scheduled to last two days — international community presented a unique opportunity.

"Before, the only way we could talk was with a gun," he said. "This is a golden opportunity and we must not lose it."

Meanwhile rival clans fought on the northwestern outskirts of Mogadishu as U.S. troops tried to improve security in the lawless Somali capital.

U.S. military spokesman Marine Colonel Fred Peck said Monday evening's clashes were a smaller-scale repeat of clan-based fighting which erupted in roughly the same area on New Year's eve during a visit by U.S. President George Bush.

The British charity Save the Children Fund (SCF) said Tuesday one of its field workers reported seeing a private car which had been hit by a rocket in the area on Monday. At least one Somali passenger was killed.

U.S. marines shot and almost certainly killed a Somali gunman Tuesday in a lawless part of north Mogadishu.

Col. Peck told reporters a Marine sniper fired one shot after the man fired on marines while fleeing a building which they were securing.

Exchange sheds new light into Ma'an riots

(Continued from Page 1)
(which could) lead to unnecessary loss of life."

Mr. Rifai's government resigned a week after the riots started and secretary-general of different ministries ran day-to-day affairs until Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker was appointed prime minister on April 29.

In his letter to Al Ra'i, Mr. Moumani said he was waiting for the drivers at the governorate building at 8:30 in the morning but that the "big surprise was when the drivers, instead of coming to the building, went to the comprehensive secondary school for boys and brought the students out forcefully, then went to another school and collected the students there in the same manner and led a march to the governorate building."

"I asked the security forces not to stand in the way of the march and to avoid any confrontation in the hope that I would be able to deal with the problem and solve it amicably," Mr. Moumani said.

"The security apparatus, which did its job as best it could, was careful to be accurate and to operate within the law, did not rely on rumours or it would have accused Mr. Arar of instigating the riots as was rumoured at that time," the retired officer said.

Both Mr. Moumani and Brig. Zureiqi pointed to an incident on the day before the riots began when five Ma'an drivers told the police department that 42 drivers who shuttle between that city and the capital will not take passengers at the going rate of JD 1.70.

According to both former officials, a permission was given to the drivers to charge JD 2 until such a time when the minister of transportation would issue a new list of prices comparable with the increase in fuel prices.

"All that was rumoured about

me of not meeting with the drivers, of mistreating them and imprisoning some of them or that I closed the doors of the government, in their faces were only rumours aimed at giving credence to the irresponsible behaviour of some of the drivers," Mr. Moumani added.

The story, as told by Mr. Moumani, was further verified by Brig. Zureiqi who also complained in his letter that Mr. Arar failed to "verify the truth before falling victim to rumours which at that time also accused him of being behind the problems in Ma'an."

"Instead of defending himself against the string of rumours against him, he went and threw these accusations at others and at these same government institutions which he at one time headed," Brig. Zureiqi said in a direct reference to Mr. Arar's former post as minister of interior who, among his other duties, is in charge of Jordan's governors.

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CJB reiterates warning to foreign groups

(Continued from Page 1)

Times Tuesday, Dr. Nabulsi said the CJB had not given any permission to the IIP to invite investments from Jordanians for projects inside or outside. As such, he said, the project's activities in the Kingdom were illegal and the CJB was pursuing the matter with the security authorities.

Mr. Ghaili said IIP represented American Muslims and it had various projects in eight American states and five or six Islamic countries.

He asserted that the objective of his advertisements in the local press were "aimed at assessing whether we were wanted here or not rather than inviting investments from Jordanians."

"We found that so many people were interested in our project and hence our plans for a regional office in Amman," he said, adding that all operations of the project were strictly guided by the Islamic concepts of *musahara* (partnership) and *muadara* (leasing).

"None of our operations includes usury (interest) at all at any stage," he said.

However, "if they don't want us here, we will leave," he added.

It was the second known incident where the CJB warned foreign based groups against soliciting investments from Jordanians in 18 months.

In the earlier episode, a Latin American national of Arab origin came to Jordan in mid-1991 saying he was the chief executive of a Tunis-based "Arab American Bank" and wanted either to buy a

Deputies expected to endorse budget

(Continued from Page 1)

the people and serve the interests of the country that control it.

Coming out of his silence since release from jail under a General Amnesty issued by His Majesty King Hussein in November, Deputy Leith Shbeihat (Amman) launched the strongest attack on the IMF saying the government strictly followed its instructions in preparing the draft budget.

The independent Islamist deputy was released under the pardon November after the State Security Court found him guilty of sedition among other charges and sentenced him to 20 years of hard labour.

The fund is one of the most dangerous tools of the world system for imposing absolute economic liberalism... and abolishing customs and tariffs... which only serves the interests of industrialised countries," said Mr. Shbeihat, who attacked the free market economy in general.

An outspoken Shbeihat said nothing has changed in Jordan since people took to the streets in April 1989 to protest alleged government corruption and price hikes.

In a direct criticism of his colleagues, Mr. Shbeihat said four years after the November 1989 parliamentary elections, the slogan of "democracy is the solution," and "Islam is the solution" seem to have been replaced by the slogan "The (International Monetary) Fund is the solution."

In what he described as the "language of analysis and not threats," Mr. Shbeihat said while people who were responsible for "driving the country into the abyss of indebtedness were not touched; no power succeeded in changing them."

People who were investigating corruption were instead "arrested and taught a lesson by the 'fair judiciary,'" a lesson that they will not forget," said Mr. Shbeihat in a speech that noticeably captured

the attention of all deputies and ministers present.

"People can now (rest assured) after the arrest of the source of real 'conspiracy,'" he said in a cynical, indirect reference to his arrest and conviction.

Before his arrest, Mr. Shbeihat was the head of a parliamentary committee charged with investigating alleged government corruption.

Mr. Shbeihat demanded that government publicise its agreement with IMF and the confidential letter of intent, "which is unknown to those who are supposed to be the guardians of national sovereignty: The Deputies, and the majority of ministers who ignore something called collective responsibility of the cabinet."

Politics dominated the speeches of other deputies, with Amman representative Fares Al Nabulsi castigating the Ministry of Interior for "acting with marital law mentality."

He said the ministry exceeded its mandate in denying licences to three political parties, acting like an independent government. He called on government to reverse the ministry's decision.

The ministry has refused to license the Arab Baath Socialist Party, the Jordan Communist Party and the Jordan People's Democratic party.

Mr. Nabulsi also demanded that municipal elections be held in Amman because it "was unnatural" that the capital is denied this right while other cities in the country enjoy it.

The role of the Amman Municipality is assumed by the Amman Governorate Council, which is appointed by the government.

Tuesday's session started at 10:30 a.m. and lasted till 6 p.m. with Cabinet members and the House speakers left for the airport to receive King Hussein who returned home from London.

Israel stands firm on expulsions

(Continued from Page 1)

Tuesday to discuss details of his visit.

Israel expelled the group on Dec. 17 for alleged links to Muslim fundamentalist groups that killed five Israeli soldiers as well as Palestinians suspected of helping Israel.

Mr. Ben-Ami said Israel also stood by its decision to allow a one-time delivery of medical aid only if Lebanon let a food convoy through at the same time. The Beirut government refused.

Group spokesman Abdul Aziz Al Rantisi hailed as "positive" Dr. Ghaili's warning that he might recommend Security Council action to force Israel to take back the evictees.

"I see that the (U.N.) position is more serious than before and I see that Israel will have to comply with international legitimacy," Mr. Rantisi said.

In Beirut, President Elias Hrawi repeated Lebanon's refusal to allow the Palestinians into territory it controls and called their expulsion an aggression against its country.

"Lebanon will not fall into the trap," Mr. Hrawi told parliament. "We do not accept that Lebanon be used as a spearhead of hit against the legitimate rights of our brothers."

"Let whoever created the problem solve it. Lebanon has no responsibility in an action committed by others," he said.

The Palestinians stranded in

Muna Kassab Nabil

— a remembrance

Muna Kassab Nabil died last Thursday morning at the age of 43, after struggling briefly against what turned out to be a fatal ailment of the heart and lungs. Her death, like her life, left a profound impact on her friends, family, and colleagues.

Most of us, as often happens in life, did not have the opportunity to tell her while she was alive how much we — how much we what? Loved her? Enjoyed her? Appreciated her? Even the sentiments that we felt towards her were not always neatly divisible into standard compartments of human emotion, because she did not lend herself to standardisation or compartmentalisation.

Certainly, we loved her, enjoyed her company, valued her friendship, sought out her opinions and advice, laughed at her jokes and occasional sharp comments and constantly marvelled at her almost infinite capacity to care for others, to remember the birthdays of children, the concerns of friends, and the small wishes of the elderly. We admired her capacity to love Jordan and Palestine and her wider Arab identity, while criticising elements in all of them that occasionally annoyed her. We were moved by her and her husband's ability to make their marriage into a routine monument of Christian-Muslim fraternity. She valued the many good things and fine people all around her, but at the same time she did not hesitate to castigate the fools and point out the faults that annoyed her. Few people combined all of these traits in a single, energised human package, as she did.

Many of us are angry that we did not tell Muna all of these things while she was alive — angry at ourselves for not having reciprocated the constant gestures of appreciation and affection that she made to all of her friends, family and colleagues.

But then, she probably knew how much we loved her by the silent gestures we made to her and her husband and her family — the little gifts we brought her from our travels, the frequent, brief phone calls to ask a quick question or share a new thought, the willingness to share secrets with her and her alone, the tendency to turn first to her and her husband in a moment of need, the anticipation at telling her the latest political joke, the presents we shared on annual occasions, and the many times we asked her advice on issues that mattered, and a few that didn't. She must have known how we felt about her. Special people always do.

Rami Khouri

103rd U.S. Congress assumes office

(Continued from Page 1)
colleagues, they differed on priorities.

Change was evident not just in the overall numbers, but in the people who will be serving in Congress.

Both chambers will have record numbers of women: Six in the Senate and 47 in the House.

The House also will have 38 blacks and 17 Hispanics, records in both categories. The Senate will have its first black member since 1978 the first black woman member ever in Democrat Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois; and its first American Indian in more than 60 years, Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado.

Appearing on "CBS This Morning," Democratic newcomers emphasised the need to help the poor and strengthen education and job training programmes. They also supported tax increases, especially on the rich.

"I don't think we ought to shy away from taxes," said Democratic Eva Clayton of North Carolina.

Republicans focused on the need to reduce record federal deficits but stood firm against new tax increases.

"The economy is on the right track," said Republican Jay Kim of California, the first Korean-American ever to be elected to Congress. "This is not the time to raise taxes."

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Sports



West Indian batsman Brian Lara (left) works his way to 121 not out with 15 boundaries, as Australian wicket-keeper Ian Healy (right) watches (AFP photo)

Brian Lara hits record test score

SYDNEY (AP) — West Indian cricketer Brian Lara will never forget the 23 runs he didn't make in the Third Test against Australia Tuesday.

Lara turned his maiden century of Monday into an epic 271 before he ran himself out late on the fourth day at the Sydney Cricket Ground after carrying the West Indies to the safety of a likely draw.

The 23-year-old Trinidadian hit the boundary fence 38 times in a little under eight hours at the wicket as he chased Sir Garfield Sobers' all-time record test score of 365 not out. Sobers was at the ground to see the young left-hander dismantle the Australian attack.

"I was thinking about 300 and

it was a bit disappointing that I got myself out," Lara said. "I still feel great though, to get so far. I was dreaming about this day and it's nice for me that it came early in my career."

Lara began the day on 121 after telephoning his mother in his village of Santa Cruz, near the capital of Port-of-Spain, to tell her of his maiden test century.

The former youth captain was not content with a simple century and carried on to record the fourth-highest score in a maiden century innings and the fourth-best score in test cricket by a West Indian.

Sobers holds both marks with that undefeated 365 against Pakistan at Kingston in 1957-58.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Paris-Dakar Rally drivers face snow

FEZ, Morocco (R) — Competitors in the Paris-Dakar Rally faced a hazardous journey through the Atlas Mountains which were covered in snow and black ice Tuesday. Roger Kalmanovitz, the rally's deputy director, said the first 127 kilometres of narrow, winding trails on the route between the ancient Moroccan city of Fez and Beni Ounif in neighbouring Algeria would be made much more difficult by the bad weather conditions. Following Monday's 310-km warm up between Tangier and Fez, the African section of the rally began in earnest Tuesday with 11 special stages over 761 kms of mainly mountain and desert tracks to Beni Ounif. Crews of the 65 cars, 46 motorcycles and 41 trucks reported no major accidents or breakdowns during the run-up to Fez.

Witt trying for Olympic figure skating comeback

BERLIN (AP) — Two-time Olympic figure skating champion Katarina Witt said she hopes to make a comeback in the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer. "I am the sort of person who needs a big mountain in front of me to climb," the 27-year-old Witt said on the ARD Television Network. The East German skater won the gold in Sarajevo in 1984 and again in Calgary in 1988. She gave up her amateur career after the games in Canada, and since then has appeared in professional ice-skating shows that are highly popular in the United States.

Gretzky cleared to play

INGLEWOOD (AP) — The great one is returning to the ice, and the timing couldn't be better for the slumping Los Angeles Kings. Wayne Gretzky, the NHL's all-time leading scorer, has been cleared by team doctors to play and will see his first action this season Wednesday night when the Kings meet the Tampa Bay Lightning at the Forum. "I'm obviously pretty excited," Gretzky said at a Forum news conference. "Yesterday, I went through some tests to see if I was in physical condition to play hockey. The tests were fine. "I just feel like I'm physically ready to play. There's no reason to wait around. The three months I didn't play, I realized how much I enjoy playing."

Platt could return within fortnight

ROME (R) — England and Juventus midfielder David Platt could be back in action within a fortnight after a medical examination revealed no serious complications with his injured knee, a spokeswoman for the Italian club said Tuesday. Platt had an operation to repair cartilage damage last November and his return to action has been delayed by a stubborn swelling which led to fears of fresh surgery.

Powell guests at Britain-Russia meet

GLASGOW (AP) — Mike Powell, world record holder for the long jump, will be a guest competitor at the Britain-Russia indoor track meet Jan. 30, organisers have said. World champion in 1991 but silver medallist behind rival Carl Lewis at last year's Olympics, Powell is one of several Americans invited to compete at the meet at Kelvin Hall and is first to accept.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH
Tribune Media Services, Inc.

NOT TIME FOR MAYDAY

Both vulnerable: South deals.

NORTH
♦ K 8 3
J 9 5 4
Q
♦ A 8 7 4

WEST
+ 10 7 6 4 ♦ 5 2
8 2 Q 10 7 3
J 10 6 3 7 4
+ K 9 6

EAST
+ 10 9 8 5 2
♦ J 10 9 3 2

SOUTH
♦ A Q J 9
A 6
A 9 8 5 2
5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass 2 NT Pass
3 + Pass 3 NT Pass
4 + Pass 5 Pass
5 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

When you're in a bad contract, don't abandon hope. Look for a line that might offer a chance for success and play as if that distribution exists. This hand, played aboard the Royal Viking Sun, is an example.

When North showed a balanced 13-15 points by jumping to two no trump, South was interested in this. Four diamonds probed for the

possibility of a 5-3 fit in that suit and we would have bid four no trump with the North hand rather than five diamonds. Since a trump suit had not yet been agreed upon, that would be natural, not asking.

West led a club, and declarer was not enamored with the prospects. Barring the lucky shot of finding either defender with a singleton or doubleton queen of hearts, the best chance to land the slam was an even break. So declarer took the ace of clubs in dummy, cashed the king and queen of trumps and then came to hand with a club ruff to play the ace of diamonds. East's club discard was a sore disappointment.

All was not yet lost. If West held two hearts and four spades, or three cards in each black suit and the queen of hearts, the contract could still succeed. Declarer crossed to the king of spades, ruffed another club and then proceeded to play spades. When West had to follow to all four spades, the slam was home. Declarer simply cashed the ace and king of hearts and the 13th trick was won by West's trump and East's queen of hearts simultaneously.

Czechs defeat Australia in Hopman Cup

PERTH (AP) — Petr Korda and Jana Novotna teamed for the first time in 10 years Tuesday and gave the new Czech republic a 2-1 victory over Australia in the quarterfinals of the Hopman Cup team tennis tournament.

Meanwhile, Guy Forget celebrated his 28th birthday leading France to victory over the United States and a semifinal berth in the Hopman Cup.

Korda and Novotna beat Wally Masur and Nicole Provis 6-2, 7-6 (7-5) in the decisive mixed doubles as the Republic made a successful international sporting debut.

They last paired as 14-year-olds in a Czech junior tournament, losing in the second round.

Earlier, Provis beat Novotna 6-1, 6-4 in the women's singles.

Korda and Novotna maintained a 12-0 record for Czech or Czechoslovak teams in mixed doubles in the \$490,000 tournament.

emphatic style, outhitting Masur in a baseline slugfest.

The Australian was unsettled by a series of foot-fault calls and was never able to control the tempo of the match.

The fiery Korda was incensed by a number of line calls, but escaped censure despite twice hurling his racket to the ground. He seemed to draw motivation from his arguments with the umpire.

Korda won the tiebreaker in the first set after an outburst over a call at 6-6. He briefly sat down and refused to play on. After calming down, he clinched the set two points later and then immediately broke Masur's serve in the first game of the second set.

"I got angry and I got a little bit pumped at the same time," Korda said.

He dominated the mixed doubles with his power at the net.

The Czechs became the third team to clinch a semifinal spot. The top-seeded German team of Steffi Graf and Michael Stich faced Ukraine in the remaining quarterfinal later Tuesday.

France beat the United States 2-1 on Monday, while Spain downed defending champion Switzerland 3-0.

The Pepsi-sponsored tournament is one of a number of leadup events before the Australian Open. It offers a first prize of \$105,000 and continues through Friday night.

Forget kept France the tie with a surprisingly easy straight sets win over Malvina Washington after Nathalie Tauziat had lost to Mary Joe Fernandez in the opening match.

Then he took charge in the mixed doubles with Tauziat to steer the fifth-seeded French to a comfortable 6-3, 6-2 victory and a match against either top seeds Germany or Ukraine.

Forget was generous in his praise of Tauziat, who was playing her first competitive mixed doubles match. "Nathalie played like a man. Her volleys were really good," he said.

Earlier, Fernandez battled nausier and dizziness to give the Americans a 1-0 lead in a mistake-ridden match which saw 14 breaks of serve and 129 forced and unforced errors.

Fernandez, ranked six in the world, twice needed medical attention after complaining that she felt unwell. She later blamed heatstroke for the problem.

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France's Guy Forget

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Fernandez looked on her way to a quick win when she capped up the first set 6-1. But Tauziat

took the match into a decider when she won the second set tie-breaker 7-4.

The American raced into a 4-0 lead in the final set but then visibly sagged again to let Tauziat win the next three games before pulling herself together to seal the match 6-4.

Forget's victory over Washington was emphatic, given their respective world rankings of 12 and 13. He dispatched the American 6-3, 6-4 in 90 minutes, his superior serve and stronger forehand proving decisive.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

your mind just what you want in the future and to start to put such a course of action into effect right away.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take a good look at your property and possessions today and think out a better course of action by which you can increase them, have a greater abundance.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 22) You would be wise to take stock of your best qualities and abilities and where they can best be expressed to bring you happiness in personal relationships.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You need to draw back a bit this fine day and consider deeply your most important objectives and the best way to confidentially make them yours.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A determined and purposeful friend should be listened to and followed since there is real devotion to you along with sensible ideas for your progress.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to contact those with whom you have respect for your abilities and get them to renew anew your special abilities and how they can make them a reality.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are able to utilize this day to best advantage by tuning in on your intuitive perceptions how best to go and develop in the future.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"They're press-on pimples. They make me feel young."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

KREPY

WHAAS

BILGEO

SNAMEA

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Jumbles: LARVA FEIGN KOSHER PENURY
Answer: Spring fever caused him to have this—
SPRING FEVER

THE Daily Crossword

by William Canine

ACROSS

1 Recruit
5 Sly look
9 Dispersing remarks
14 Seed cover
15 Gripe
16 Citrus water
17 Disclose

18 Healthy

19 Jong the author

20 Collection of

21 Not jaded

23 Simonian sleuth

25 Additionally

26 Lifetime

27 Rabbit

29 Confederate soldier

30 Embroidered

35 Brushtooth

36 Actor's award

37 Regatta, e.g.

38 Change in

39 Apartment

40 My word!

41 Way

42 Caesar

44 Group of one's peers

45 "The Gold Bug"

46 Canvas

47 Tough

48 Dominers

49 Without variance

52 Puerto —

53 Cicero

54 Jingo

55 Ardent

56 Cigar

57 Arrange

58 Chest

60 Fold

61 Concocting

62 Sound to attract attention

Financial Jordan Times
Markets in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Date	4/1/93	5/1/93
Sterling Pound	1.5005	1.5043
Deutsche Mark	1.6390	1.6570
Swiss Franc	1.4790	1.4778
French Franc	5.5925	5.5813**
Japanese Yen	125.30	125.25
European Currency Unit	1.1905	1.1925**

120 per \$1US

European Opening or 3200 U.S. GMT

Interbank Interest Rates Date: 5/1/93

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.31	3.37	3.43	3.68
Sterling Pound	7.25	7.12	6.95	6.82
Deutsche Mark	8.31	8.56	8.25	7.56
Swiss Franc	5.87	5.75	5.56	5.25
French Franc	14.50	13.75	11.50	9.75
Japanese Yen	3.81	3.75	3.62	3.62
European Currency Unit	10.06	10.12	10.00	9.93

Interest bid rate for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals Date: 5/1/93

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	328.90	6.50	Silver	3.65	.080

* 24 karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 5/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.691	0.693
Sterling Pound	1.0385	1.0457
Deutsche Mark	0.4219	0.4240
Swiss Franc	0.4674	0.4697
French Franc	0.1236	0.1242
Japanese Yen*	0.5512	0.5540
Dutch Guilder	0.3752	0.3771
Swedish Krona	0.0961	0.0966
Italian Lira*	0.0452	0.0454
Belgian Franc	0.02047	0.02057

* Per 100

Other Currencies Date: 5/1/93

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8100	1.8260
Lebanese Lira*	0.03638	0.0385
Saudi Riyal	0.1835	0.1846
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2400	2.2800
Qatari Riyal	0.1870	0.1885
Egyptian Pound	0.2080	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7650	1.7710
UAE Dirham	0.1870	0.1883
Greek Drachma*	0.32445	0.33445
Cypriot Pound	1.4097	1.4297

* Per 100

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	3/1/93	Close	4/1/93	Close
All-Share	179.31	180.83		
Banking Sector	130.66	130.22		
Insurance Sector	196.24	196.29		
Industry Sector	244.48	249.18		
Services Sector	245.68	247.13		

December 31, 1990 = 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar	Deutschmarks
1.2822/27	1.6375/85	1.8370/90
1.4820/30	33.60/64	1.4820/30
5.5870/920	1538/1543	125.31/36
125.31/36	7.2800/900	Japanese yen
7.0175/275	7.0175/275	Swedish crowns
6.3525/625	1.5070/80	Norwegian crowns
One sterling	1.5070/80	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	\$329.00/329.50	

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TEEN AGENT

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Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

Tuesday January 5th marks the opening of the new theatre season presenting:

Pandemonium (Ta'a wa Qaimeh)

Day at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets office open all day

Cinema

Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

BLACK RAIN
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.
Thu.-Fri. special show for children at
11:00 a.m.

The Fox And The Hound

Tel: 625155

AHLAN THEATRE

"Welcome New World Order"

Play will reappear in a new presentation on Jan. 25, 1993 following the theatre's holiday

Happy New Year



AMMAN BACALAUREATE SCHOOL

The Amman-Bacalaureate School seeks applications from qualified and experienced full-time teachers for vacancies in August 1993. Applicants should be bilingual in Arabic and English and, for English teaching posts should be native speakers. Anticipated vacancies are:

Middle and Senior Schools Arabic
Middle and Senior Schools English
Junior School English and Science
Middle and Senior Schools Social Studies in English
Middle School Computing

Application forms may be obtained from the school's reception desk, phone 845572, 847191 and should be returned by Tuesday 12 January 1993. Interviews will be held before the end of January.



to set up the company has been obtained from the prime minister and studies are being prepared to that end.

2) Expanding exploration efforts by the Natural Resources Authority in the Aqaba, Dead Sea and northern Jordan to better understand the geological situation in those areas.

3) Attracting more international companies to explore for oil and gas.

The minister said that a partnership agreement was signed last year with the Korean Hanbo company which would spend \$17 million during five years of exploration.

He noted that several international companies had been engaged to explore for oil and gas in 1986 and 1987 and that a total of \$77 million were spent by these companies during their exploration projects.

Mr. Abu Ragheb belittled the amount of oil which Jordan currently produces saying that the 50,000 barrels of oil produced in 1991 would not suffice the Kingdom for one day.

However, 1991 gas production from Al Rishieh field amounted to 5.5 billion cubic feet (about 118 TTEO) used to generate electric power which contributed to producing 13 per cent of the Kingdom's annual need.

The installed capacity, he said, was 1,030 megawatts in 1991. The Kingdom produced 3,724 gigawatt hours of power in 1991. The minister said, adding that the annual production was projected to reach 5,500 gigawatt hour by the year 2000 and 7,440 gigawatt hour by 2025.

Mr. Abu Ragheb outlined to the audience the future plans for his ministry and specifically mentioned the following:

1) Setting up a national oil company which would operate on commercial basis to run existing oil and gas production sites to explore other potential sites.

The minister said that approval

to improve the soundness of performing loans through a general provision that ensures more effective assessment of creditworthiness, they said.

Bankers

may also no longer count as assets accumulated interest with new international rules set by the Bank for International Settlement (BIS).

Jordan's 20 licensed banks have total assets of around 6.3 billion dinars (\$9.2 billion). Deposits, including those in foreign currency, are estimated to have soared to 4.8 billion dinars (\$7.5 billion) at the end of 1992 against 2.6 billion (\$3.8 billion) before the Gulf crisis.

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Los Moteros Band
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FOR RENT
Fully furnished four-bedroom ground floor apartment
360 square metres, spacious salons, built-in Jwico kitchen, laundry room, four bathrooms, three verandas, independent water, electricity, central heating and telephone. European style furniture, 400 square metre garden, parking area. Location: Sixth Circle area, Sweileh, opposite the Orthodox Church ensemble.

Reasonable rent.

For more information, please call 217986 or 827521

Bosnia mediators in last-ditch effort

GENEVA (AP) — International mediators Tuesday headed for a meeting with hard-line Serb President Slobodan Milosevic in a last-ditch push to bring peace to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The mediators' spokesman said international patience was running out after Bosnian Serbs refused Monday to abandon their demand for their own state in Bosnia, blocking peace talks in Geneva.

"International pressure certainly is very strong to see a final result here and not to have these talks drag on indefinitely," spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

"Our time is running out."

Mr. Milosevic, widely seen as the mastermind of armed Serb land grabs in Croatia and Bosnia over the past 18 months, was due to meet mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen on Wednesday in Belgrade.

They want to try to persuade Mr. Milosevic to put pressure on Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to accept their peace plan. If they succeed, there may be a breakthrough when peace talks resume next Sunday.

The mediators have backed the Muslim-led government's insistence on keeping Bosnia a single state. Mr. Eckhard said Tuesday there would be "no give on that issue."

In an interview Tuesday with the Associated Press, Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic said he fears war will continue in the ex-Yugoslav republic even though he agreed to sit down with enemies he regards as war criminals.

Mr. Izetbegovic said he broke his vow never to negotiate with Bosnian Serb leaders when he met them face-to-face over the weekend for the first time since the Bosnian civil war began nine months ago.

"We had to overcome a lot of emotions and to sit at the same table with those we consider murderers," he told the AP in Geneva, adding that the meeting was necessary to give peace a chance.

"And if that doesn't work, I'm afraid the continuation of war is inevitable, he said.

If the next round of talks with leaders of Bosnia's three warring sides produces no movement, Mr. Vance and Lord Owen will report to the U.N. Security Council, naming the faction responsible for the deadlock.

Pressure for outside military intervention in Bosnia then is expected to increase.

U.S. officials are trying to get agreement on a new UN Security Council resolution threatening to shoot down Serb military aircraft that defy the "no-fly" in Bosnia imposed last October.

Islamic countries are meeting next week to decide whether to back further help, understood to include weapons, for Bosnia's Muslim-led government.

Lord Owen told British Radio Tuesday he believes imposing a truce and a political settlement on Bosnia is better than trying to "deal on the fringes" with partial solutions such as a "no-fly" zone.

A three-part compromise pack-



A man chops branches for fuel Tuesday in a Sarajevo cemetery (AFP photo)

age proposed by Mr. Vance and Lord Owen sets out plans for an end to hostilities, a new constitution and a map dividing Bosnia into 10 provinces with wide local powers.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic asked for extra time to consult with his side.

"We cannot accept Bosnia as one state," Mr. Karadzic confirmed in an interview with the AP.

He said the Serbs would be willing to accept a "confederation without right to join other

international community Monday to delay military intervention until the outcome of the second round of talks but warned the Serbs against "indefinite delaying action."

Mr. Izetbegovic said the Serbs must agree to an independent, sovereign state and to put their heavy weapons under U.N. control. He rejected a confederation comprised of nations of single ethnic groups, saying it would validate the terror policy of "ethnic cleansing."

Phnom Penh warns of second Khmer genocide

PNOM PENH (Agencies) — Warning of a second Khmer Rouge genocide campaign, the Phnom Penh government said the hardline guerrillas must join the peace process by month-end or face expulsion as outlaws.

A government statement asked "the co-chairmen of the Paris international conference of Cambodia and the U.N. secretary-general to closely watch this dangerous situation and to take appropriate and necessary actions before it is too late, in order to safeguard the Cambodian people from the second Khmer Rouge genocide and to rescue the Paris agreements."

More than one million Cambodians died in a Khmer Rouge reign of terror between April 1975, when the Maoist guerrillas seized Phnom Penh, and early 1979 when they were ousted by a Vietnamese invasion.

Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen Tuesday accused the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which is implementing the Paris peace agreement, of "lacking

Convict hanged in Washington

WALLA WALLA, Washington (AP) — Three-time child-killer Westley Allan Dodd, who asked that he be afforded the same treatment he gave one of his victims, was executed early Tuesday in the nation's first hanging in 28 years.

The 31-year-old shipping clerk was pronounced dead at 12:09 a.m. (0809 GMT), four minutes after a prison official pushed a button that opened a trap door and sent Dodd's hooded body the two-and-a-half-metre length of his gallows rope.

The state supreme court cleared the way for the execution when it issued a one-sentence ruling late Monday rejecting a bid by 26 Washington residents to halt the hanging as cruel and unusual punishment. The vote was 7-1.

It was Washington State's first execution since 1963.

The last hangings in the United States were in 1965 in Kansas, when four murderers were put to death. Among them were Richard Eugene Hickock and Perry Edward Smith, the subjects of Truman Capote's book "In Cold Blood."

Dodd, who killed three children, had dropped all appeals and asked to die because "I will kill and rape again and enjoy every minute of it."

He chose hanging over lethal injection because, he said, he had hanged his youngest victim's body in a closet after killing him.

"I was once asked by someone, I don't remember who, if there was any way sex offenders could be stopped," Dodd said in his final statement. "I said no. I was wrong."

"I was wrong when I said there was no hope, no peace. There is hope. There is peace. I found both in the Lord, Jesus Christ. Look to the lord and you will find peace."

Death penalty opponents staged prayer meetings, vigils and demonstrations across the state in the hours before the execution.

Dodd was sentenced to death in 1970 for the 1969 sex murders of three boys in Washington's Vancouver area. The crimes were so grisly that some of the jurors who sentenced him sought psychiatric help afterwards.

Governor Booth Gardner rejected requests from death penalty foes to commute Dodd's sentence to life in prison.

Maulana Azizul Huq, an organiser of the march, declared it was over, but he threatened to restart the campaign to force India to

Compromise possible on Hong Kong reforms — Patten

LONDON (R) — Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten says there is room for compromise on planned democratic reforms for the British colony and he hopes the final proposals will be acceptable to China.

"The British government has made it clear that it doesn't want to go further than the people of Hong Kong want to go, and it doesn't want to go less far," he said in an interview with the London Evening Standard.

That is a wholly honourable position and one on which we'll take our stand," he added.

Asked whether there was room for compromise, he said: "It's perfectly possible... I hope that the proposals we come up with eventually are regarded as acceptable by the present sovereign power (Britain) and the future sovereign power (China)."

China has relentlessly threatened Hong Kong with dire consequences since Mr. Patten announced reform proposals in

October which would effectively allow Hong Kong people to elect the majority of the colony's legislature for the first time.

Mr. Patten has challenged China to come up with better proposals for elections due in 1995.

But Peking has refused to join the debate and has demanded that Mr. Patten withdraw the entire package.

China said Tuesday British actions will determine whether foreign ministers of the two countries will be able to meet in March as scheduled to discuss Hong Kong.

The next meeting should be held in Peking in March this year. The holding of the next meeting depends on what the British side will do," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said by telephone in answer to a question.

She did not elaborate.

Under a 1991 Sino-British agreement, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd is due to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen in Peking in March as part of a series of six-monthly meetings.

Plutonium ship docks at Tokai after 'secret' voyage

TOKAI, Japan (AP) — A freighter carrying 1.7 tonnes of plutonium docked here early Tuesday after a secret two-month voyage that provoked protests over Japan's plans to stockpile the deadly material for its nuclear energy programme.

The Akatsuki Maru reached Tokai port, 115 kilometres northeast of Tokyo, just after dawn Tuesday, flanked by scores of escort vessels.

Officials said it would take until Wednesday afternoon to unload the plutonium from the freighter, which is docked inside the nuclear facility that will process and store the plutonium.

About 600 anti-nuclear activists, outnumbered by some 1,000 local police, marched through the narrow streets of this farming village later Tuesday to protest the shipment that they say put the entire world at risk.

One speck of plutonium can cause cancer.

Although Japanese officials declared the Akatsuki Maru's mission a success, they expressed concern over the intensity of international criticism provoked by the secretive plutonium shipment.

Mulroney reshuffles cabinet; woman takes defence portfolio

OTTAWA (AP) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced cabinet changes Monday, but stopped short of the wholesale retooling that might be expected before an election.

The last shuffle took place in April 1991, and the current government reaches five years in office this November.

Mr. Mulroney has said he has no intention of resigning, but polls indicate he remains the lightning rod for political discontent in Canada and that his party would be better off with another election.

A newcomer is backbencher Pierre Vincent, taking consumer and corporate affairs job.

"There will be another structural shuffle before the election," Mr. Mulroney said.

Ms. Campbell took the defence and veterans affairs jobs vacated by Mr. Masse and Mr. Merrithew.

He said the changes were made to reduce the size of cabinet from 39 to 35 and to prepare for policy initiatives to be outlined next month.

Out of the cabinet are Marcel Masse, Jake Epp, Robert de Cotret, Gerald Merrithew — all ministers in Mr. Mulroney's original 1984 cabinet — and William Winegard. They have said they would not run in the next election.

A newcomer is backbencher Pierre Vincent, taking consumer and corporate affairs job.

"Ten ministers were shuffled.

"Others moved include:

— Bill McKnight to energy. He

left the Agriculture Department to Charlie Mayer, who merged the job with his old one as minister for grains and oilseeds.

Pierre Blais moved to justice from consumer and corporate affairs. He also acquired membership on several key committees of cabinet, where fine points of policy are worked out. Mr. Blais is already co-chairman of the conservatives' re-election campaign.

Joe Clark kept the constitutional affairs portfolio. Mr. Clark has said he was considering leaving politics; until he does, he will have a new role — running the cabinet committee that will oversee a revamping of social programmes.

Tom Hockin added the science ministry to the small business portfolio he already had.

Pauline Brookes went to minister of state for employment

and immigration from minister of state for environment.

With the exception of Ms. Campbell, all potential leadership aspirants — External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall, Environment Minister Jean Charest, Communications Minister Perrin Beatty and Employment Minister Bernard Valcourt — stayed put.

Ms. Campbell, who has been able to reform such controversial areas as human rights and gun control legislation, takes on a high-profile, high-risk portfolio.

In the post-cold war world, Canada's peacekeeping commitments are increasing. At the same time troops are being cut and there are widespread calls to close bases to pare down the military infrastructure.

Monique Landry, who replaced Mr. De Cotret as secretary of state.

Monique Vezina, who replaced Ms. Landry as minister of state for external relations and retained a title as minister for seniors.

Tom Hockin added the science ministry to the small business portfolio he already had.

Pauline Brookes went to minister of state for employment

professor of Soviet studies.

Mr. Mulroney also accepted the resignations of five ministers.

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